

ribbon type ropes with a fused ribbon rope to take advantage of higher flexibility of this type of rope to prevent the balancing ropes from bulging or bowing such that they contact the hoistway walls. If these ropes were intended for use as suspension ropes, bulging or bowing of the ropes would not be an issue due to the tension in the ropes from the suspended loads.

Therefore, there is no disclosure or teaching in Tokyo Rope of a flat suspension rope and the combination of Gale and Tokyo Rope does not result in the invention as claimed, and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection of Claims 2, 5, 6, 16, 19 and 20.

Claims 3, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gale in view of Tokyo Rope, and further in view of Murtaugh. According to the Office Action, the motivation for combining Gale and Tokyo Rope with Murtaugh is to effectively alter the length of the suspension rope in order to ensure the proper length.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection. First, for the reasons discussed above, the combination of Gale and Tokyo Rope fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention as claimed in either Claim 2 or 16, from which Claims 3, 17 and 18 depend. Second, the motivation for combining Murtaugh with the other two references cited in this rejection is absurd. To ensure the proper length for the suspension ropes, the ropes must be cut to length. It doesn't matter if the elevator is roped in a 1:1 configuration or a 2:1 configuration, the proper length is determined from the cut length not the particular roping arrangement.

Therefore, this combination of reference fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention as claimed in Claims 3, 17 and 18 and reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 14, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gale in view of Tokyo Rope, and further in view of Aulanko et al.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection for the reasons discussed above and request reconsideration of this rejection.

Claims 2-4 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murtaugh in view of Gale and Tokyo Rope.

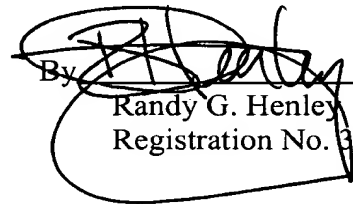
Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. As discussed above, Tokyo Rope fails to disclose a flat suspension rope as required in Claims 2 and 16. Further, even if Tokyo Rope did disclose a flat suspension rope, there is no motivation for this combination of

references. Murtaugh is a dumb waiter, i.e., a hoisting device for light loads. There is simply no motivation to combine the motor and flat rope of Gale along with a flat suspension rope into a dumb waiter as the benefits, if any, would be miniscule. This complex combination of references is simple an example of hindsight reconstruction of the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection.

Claims 7 and 21 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the traversal of the rejections of the base claims, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this objection.

Inasmuch as neither the structure nor function of Applicant's invention has been anticipated or made obvious, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Randy G. Henley
Registration No. 35,188

Otis Elevator Company
Otis Intellectual Property Department
10 Farm Springs
Farmington, CT 06032
(860) 676-5742